

2008/9 Season Weeks 15 - 18

Match Reports – Division One

Hollingworth A 2 v 8 Hollingworth Nomads (week 8)

Excellent evening's ping pong - bravo!

[Pete Morris provided the first of the 'A' team's two points with a five-game win over Gary Newton. He almost made it two in his match with Simon Hardwick but fell at the final hurdle, losing 9 - 11 in the last game. Chris Guard took a game off Simon and Gary, and Richard Hinchliffe also went to four with Gary, but neither made it past three against Dave Buckley. Peter and Chris combined in the doubles, beating Dave and Simon 8, 9, 10.]

Stanley Square A 4 v 6 Hollingworth B (week 14)

The opening match saw Glen Chadwick against Vernon Hyde. Vernon nicked it in the fifth after amassing more nets than the Fleetwood Fishing Fleet [*I have to admit there's some truth to that statement - but I was strangely unrepentant! - Vernon*]. Smarty played some good T.T. but only got a single win over Vernon [*cosmic retribution for my lack of repentance!*]. Dennis Bradshaw and Ken Ward got two wins each.

[For Stanley Square : Steve Hilton 3, Dave Smart 1, Glen Chadwick 0. For Hollingworth B : Dennis Bradshaw 2, Ken Ward 2, Vernon Hyde 1. Steve and Glen played the doubles against Ken and Dennis - losing in 5, 15, 9, 10, 11, 9 - close!]

Hollingworth B 7 v 3 Rosehill A

The visitors only fielded two players, but there were still some quality matches. Lionel Royle went on against Richard Sarre and won the first two games, but Richard came back to even things. The fifth game was an epic battle with Lionel finally winning 15 - 13. Ken Ward played Richard and their match went to five, with Ken winning 13 - 11 in the final game. Geoff Ogden fared better, beating both Dennis Bradshaw and Ken in four. Lionel was the man of the match, unbeaten in what was a gritty, determined performance. Ken and Lionel won the doubles in straight games.

Hollingworth Nomads 8 v 2 Stanley Square A

Another 8 points for Nomads, with Dave Buckley and Tim Baker taking maximums. Steve Hilton overcame Gary Newton in four, and paired up with Glen Chadwick to take the doubles over Gary and Tim.

George Lane 3 v 7 Hyde YMCA 'A'

Matthew Weatherby won his games comfortably. Peter Jepson and Fran Marsden pushed Neil to defeat in four, and Fran, hitting the net on a regular basis, eventually defeated Josh Boulton in five. The doubles went to the visitors.

Hyde YMCA 'A' 5 v 5 Village People

Lots of good close games. Steve Buckley played well, beating Matthew Weatherby in three, Neil Coppard in four, and losing narrowly to Josh Boulton 10 - 12 in the fifth. Di Twist also won two, beating Neil in three, and Matt 11 - 7 in the fifth. Ronnie Mitchell beat Neil for Village People's fifth point. The decisive doubles between Josh/Matt and Steve/Ronnie was also a close affair, going all the way, with the youngsters just prevailing 11 - 9 in the fifth to earn the draw.

Rosehill A 3 v 7 Hollingworth Nomads

Nomads crossed the border into Ashton and comprehensively beat old rivals Rosehill A, 7 - 3. Captain Buckley swept all before him, whilst Tim Baker (2) and Gary Newton (1 + doubles) provided good support. Dave's match with Richard Sarre produced some of the best table tennis of the season. Richard (1), and Phil Ashworth (2), recorded Rosehill's points [*T. Baker*]

Stanley Square A 2 v 8 Village People (rearranged from wk. 11)

'Twas a good night of table tennis in this rearranged match. Glen Chadwick was Stanley Square's star player, beating Ronnie Mitchell and taking Nick Bakewell and Steve Buckley to five - losing 12 - 14, and 10 - 12 respectively. Ronnie also lost to Steve Hilton after his 4 week lay-off. Nick and Steve B. won three each. Ronnie beat Dave Smart, and won the doubles with Steve B, to win the match 8 - 2.

Strines A 9 v 1 George Lane

As was the case with most teams this season, Strines A limited George Lane to one point. Nevertheless, behind the scoreline there were some close matches. Ken Wood took Peter Fowler and Jack Harrington to five, and John Potts to four, before losing. Peter Jepson lost to Pete Fowler in three, John in four, and beat Jack in five for George Lane's only point. The doubles was another five games, with Pete F. and Jack beating Pete J. and Roger Etchells 11 - 7 in the fifth.

Village People 6 v 4 Hollingworth B

Steve Buckley beat Ken Ward and Vernon Hyde, but lost to Lionel Royle. Ron Mitchell beat Ken Ward and Vernon Hyde, but lost to Lionel Royle. Di Twist beat Vernon Hyde, but lost to Ken Ward and, of course, to Lionel Royle! As can be deduced from the foregoing, Lionel Royle was, for this night at the very least, his team mates' hero! His halo deviated only slightly from the horizontal when, despite a more than creditable performance by Vernon and himself, the doubles slipped through his otherwise faultless fingers in four!

[The easily detectable bias in this report towards the exploits of the visitors and their star player might have something to do with the fact that I wrote it ! Vernon]

Rosehill B 3 v 7 Rosehill A

Phil was superb tonight.

[For the 'B' team : Andrew Perry 2, Warwick Francis 1, Jimmy Findlow 0. For the 'A' team : Phil Ashworth 3, Richard Sarre 2, Dave Pegg 1. Warwick and Andy lost to Phil and Richard in straight games.]

Hyde YMCA 'A' 6 v 4 Strines A

Some excellent matches with everybody winning at least one of them. Josh Boulton won his usual three to round off an excellent season for him. Matthew Weatherby beat Jordan Potts but lost to Jack Harrington. Neil Coppard did the opposite, losing to Jordan but beating Jack. Both lost to Pete Fowler. The deciding doubles saw Jordan teaming up with his father, John, and losing to Josh and Matt in four.

George Lane 4 v 6 Stanley Square A

For the visitors, Steve Hilton proved too good - winning his games with ease. Adrian Borrell battled, and won two, being narrowly beaten by Fran Marsden in four, whilst Dave Smart had an off night - losing out to both Fran and Peter. The doubles went to the home side.

Hollingworth B 1 v 9 Hollingworth Nomads

A fair number of games played, but not enough of them went the way of the home side. Two matches only were decided in straight games - Vernon Hyde 'v' Dave Buckley, and Vernon Hyde 'v' George Jones. A modicum of pride was restored to Vernon's bruised ego when he took a game from Simon Hardwick - but he still got battered! Dennis Bradshaw went to four with everyone for no reward. The first match of the evening had been Ken Ward against George Jones. It was a close affair for the first four games, but then Ken went into overdrive and took the fifth 11 - 3. Ken's well-earned and well-deserved point was destined to spend the rest of the evening vainly hoping for company. Vernon and Dennis raised its hopes in their first three games against Dave and Simon with scores of 11 - 13, 10 - 12, 15 - 13. A win in the fourth, and a fifth to decide the doubles?! 2 - 11 in the next game put paid to that. Our solitary point was condemned to a life of loneliness!

Rosehill A 10 v 0 Hollingworth A

[Richard Sarre, Dave Pegg and Geoff Ogden took on a depleted Hollingworth team consisting of Richard Hincliffe and Chris Guard. Chris lost to Richard S. in four, but had two closely fought matches with Geoff and Dave - the first saw a 12 - 10 win in the fifth for Geoff, and in the second Dave Pegg got an 11 - 8 win, also in the fifth. Richard H. lost in three to Geoff. He took games of Richard S. and Dave but a win eluded him. Rosehill took the doubles in four.]

Rosehill B 6 v 4 Strines A

[Andy Perry beat Pete Fowler (5), Jordan Potts (5), Jack Harrington (4), and teamed up with Warwick Francis to take the doubles against Peter and Jordan. Jimmy Findlow won his match against Jack, and Warwick beat Pete. Jordan's victories were against Jimmy and Warwick. Pete also beat Jimmy, whilst Jack's win was against Warwick.]

Hollingworth A 4 v 6 Hollingworth B

Pete Morris provided two of the home side's points with straight-game wins over Vernon Hyde and Dennis Bradshaw. Paul Whyatt came up with a third point by beating Vernon, and Richard Hinchliffe a fourth point - by beating Vernon! Ken Ward had a good win against Peter, a comparatively comfortable win against Richard, and a somewhat nervous win against Paul, 14 - 12 in the fourth. Dennis meanwhile had notched up victories against Paul and Richard.

Pete had been predicting a draw all evening, and going into the doubles with Paul, against Dennis and Vernon, he seemed passably confident that the home side could come up with the win needed to see his prediction come true. However, Vernon - who had played his first two singles against Richard and Paul with all the energy and precision of a choc ice in a heat wave, had started to show some signs of much needed life in his third singles against Peter. The challenge of the doubles, coupled with a burning desire to substitute a smile for terminal depression, completed the reanimation. Dennis, and the now quite bouncy Vernon, battled their way to an 11 - 7 win in the fifth. *[in the absence of an 'A' account of the evening's activities, a 'B' account has been supplied - by one who was there, and who belatedly bounced.]*

Hollingworth A 4 v 6 Rosehill B

[Two wins for Pete Morris who beat Andrew Perry 11 - 8 in the fifth, and Jimmy Findlow in straight games. Richard Hinchliffe provided the home side's other two points, beating both Warwick Francis and Jimmy in three. Paul Whyatt wasn't able to add any points to his team mates' total. For Rosehill, 2 for Andy, 2 for Warwick and one for Jimmy. Rosehill took the doubles in 4.]

Rosehill A 3 v 7 George Lane

[Geoff Ogden beat Peter Jepson in four, and Ken Wood in a very closely fought five, but the wiles of one canny Franny Marsden proved to be the undoing of him - he lost 11, 9, 7. Krystian Kolodziejczyk picked up the home side's third point with a win in four over Ken. Rosehill's third player, Tomasz Pruszko, couldn't add to the total, losing to Fran in three, Peter in four, and Ken in 5. Krystian and Tomasz played Fran and Peter in the doubles, losing in four.]

Stanley Square A 8 v 2 Hyde YMCA 'A'

The floor was slippery!! It was like watching Bambi on ice. Well played Stanley Square. Hope you stay up!!
[Neil Coppard]

A very enjoyable night with some excellent games and rallies. Matt Weatherby was Hyde's only winner, beating Dave Smart and Glen Chadwick. Antony Gummersall took them both to five, but came away with nothing. As usual, Neil provided most of the gags. A good night.

Strines A 4 v 6 Village People

Very tight match with lots of very close 5-game matches.

[For Strines : Pete Fowler 3, John Potts 1, Jack Harrington 0; for Village People : Nick Bakewell 2, Steve Buckley 2, Di Twist 1. Village People took the doubles in four.]